



Safety Message



Salt Lake County wishes to thank you for volunteering. Your Safety is paramount. Your cooperation in adhering to the following guidance is greatly appreciated.

No one without proper equipment and training should voluntarily enter the river, creeks or streams during high flow times. Water moves deceptively fast and can exert great amounts of pressure. Volunteers should never attempt to cross a swollen stream or river. Even automobiles can be swept away by swift water. Extreme caution should be exercised while near or around the river. Rocks and soils near the banks can become slippery or unstable.

The increased water flows are a result of melting snow pack in our mountains. Exposure to cold water can quickly lead to hypothermia, an extremely dangerous condition involving the lowering of the body's "core" temperature. Hypothermia can be lethal.

Should you fall in, do not attempt to stand up. Drowning may result from getting a leg or ankle caught in underwater debris or between boulders. The force of the water can push you over and hold you under. The standard defensive swimming position in fast water is lying on your back with your feet pointing downstream and toes up towards the surface. Always look downstream and be prepared to fend off rocks with your feet. While in this position, try to maneuver to the edge of the river and crawl out.

Should you see anyone fall in the river, immediately report to a supervisor and call 911. If possible someone should try to maintain eye contact with the victim. Unless trained and equipped, you should not attempt a rescue by entering the swift water.

Please become familiar with and follow these simple rules:

- Volunteers must check in and sign out at the designated location
- Volunteers will be assigned to a supervisor and given a task
- Volunteers must remain with their supervisor during the entire volunteer period
- No freelancing
- No horseplay
- Volunteers may not be within 5 feet of the stream bank and must remain behind a barrier or sandbag wall
- Report any injuries to your supervisor immediately
- Minor's must be accompanied by an adult (an adult is considered anyone over the age of 18)
- No minor's under the age of 12 will be allowed in the work zone
- Please advise a supervisor of any safety concerns